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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Pated: August 25, 2008

Signature: _

(Amold H. Krumholz)

Docket No.: B&LAB 3.3-017

(PATENT)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inde Patent Application of:

Application No.: 10/532,882

Group Art Unit: 1791

Filed: November 7, 2005.

Examiner: A. J. Calandra

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR

PRODUCTION OF PULP

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the official action dated August 1, 2008, in which claims 1-13 were held to be subject to restriction and/or election requirement, the following remarks are respectfully submitted.

REMARKS

In the official action of August 1, 2008, the Examiner has initially contended that this application includes more than one invention, as follows:

Invention I, claims 1-12, drawn to an apparatus conveyor worm and a curved tubular feed for separating fibers; and

Invention II, claim 13, drawn to a method for separating fibers.

The Examiner contends that these two inventions do not have common special technical features and thus lack unity. While applicant traverses this rejection, as is required,

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applicant also hereby provisionally elects Invention I; namely, that of claims 1-12 drawn to the apparatus in question. It is respectfully submitted, however, that the apparatus of claim 1 and the method of claim 13 are sufficiently similar in scope and content that, from the outset, a single search would suffice for both of these alleged inventions. From that perspective alone, it is believed it would be preferable from the point of view of economy time and effort to include all of these claims in a single application, and such action is therefore respectfully solicited.

In any event, irrespective of the Examiner's position with respect to the appropriateness of the restriction requirement, in view of applicant's provisional election, it is also clear that this application is now in condition for prosecution on the merits, and such action is therefore respectfully solicited.

If, for any reason, the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken, it is respectfully requested that he telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any further objections thereto.

Finally, if any fee is due in connection with the present response, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: August 25, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

Arnold H. Krumholz

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